

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (original): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium, which comprises preparation of calcium salt of atorvastatin in a mixture of solvents consisting of a non-cyclic chlorinated organic solvent, a non-hydroxylic organic solvent, and water and at which the source of calcium ions is selected from the group consisting of calcium acetate and calcium chloride.

Claim 2. (original): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium, which comprises preparation of calcium salt of atorvastatin in a mixture of solvents consisting of a cyclic hydrocarbon solvent, a non-hydroxylic organic solvent, and water and at which the source of calcium ions is selected from the group consisting of calcium acetate and calcium chloride.

Claim 3. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the non-cyclic chlorinated organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of chloroform, trichloroethane, dichloromethane and tetrachloroethane.

Claim 4. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the non-cyclic chlorinated organic solvent is chloroform.

Claim 5. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the non-cyclic chlorinated organic solvent is dichloromethane.

Claim 6. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cyclic hydrocarbon solvent is selected from the group consisting of cyclohexane, cyclopentane and methyl cyclohexane.

Claims 7-9. (canceled).

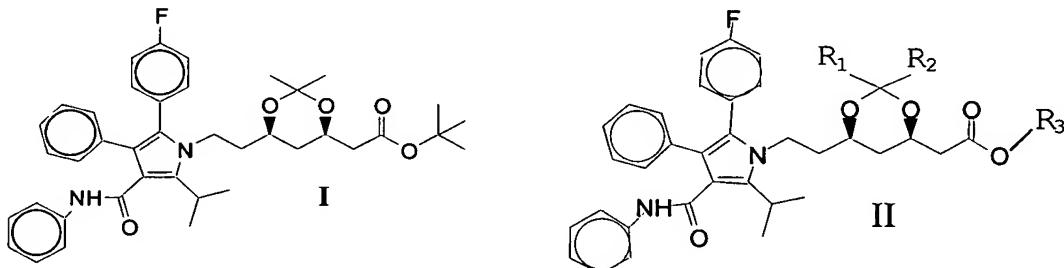
Claim 10. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claims 1-and-2, characterized in that the non-hydroxylic organic solvent is tetrahydrofuran.

Claim 11. (original): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium which comprises:

- a) preparation of a neutral reaction mixture containing sodium salt of atorvastatin,
- b) addition of non-cyclic chlorinated organic solvent selected from the group consisting of dichloromethane, trichloroethane, tetrachloroethane and chloroform, or addition of cyclic hydrocarbon solvent selected from the group consisting of cyclohexane, cyclopentane, and methyl cyclohexane,
- c) addition of an equivalent or an excess quantity of calcium ions source selected from the group consisting of calcium acetate and calcium chloride,
- d) isolation of atorvastatin calcium.

Claim 12. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 11 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the neutral reaction mixture comprising atorvastatin sodium salt is prepared by a process which comprises:

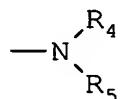
- a) dissolving a compound of formula I or II



wherein R₁ and R₂ may independently represent hydrogen, alkyl with one to three carbon atoms, phenyl, or R₁ in R₂ are taken together as (-CH₂)_n-, wherein n may be 4 or 5;

R³-R₃ may represent straight or branched chain alkyl of from one to eight carbon atoms or cycloalkyl of from three to six carbon atoms

group -O-R₃ may be substituted by the group with the formula:



wherein R₄ and R₅ may independently represent alkyl with one to ten carbon atoms, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzyl or phenyl, or R₄ in R₅ are taken together to form: -(CH₂)₄-, -(CH₂)₅-, -(CH(R⁶)-CH₂)₃-, -(CH(R⁶)-CH₂)₄-, -(CH(R⁶)-(CH₂)₂-CH(R⁶))-, -(CH(R⁶)-(CH₂)₃-CH(R⁶))-, -CH₂-CH₂-O-CH₂-CH₂-, -CH(R⁶)-CH₂-O-CH₂-CH₂-, -CH(R⁶)-CH₂-O-CH₂-CH₂(R⁶)-, wherein R⁶ represents alkyl with one to four carbon atoms,

in a non-hydroxylic organic solvent

- b) preparing sodium salt of atorvastatin in a neutral reaction mixture,

Claim 13. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that a~~ wherein the non-hydroxylic organic solvent is tetrahydrofuran.

Claim 14. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the neutral reaction mixture comprising sodium salt of atorvastatin shows a pH between 6.5 and 8.0.

Claims 15-21. (canceled).

Claim 22. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chlorinated organic solvent or cyclic hydrocarbon solvent is added in a onefold to fivefold quantity with respect to the existing volume of the solution.

Claim 23. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein simultaneously with an addition of the non-cyclic chlorinated organic solvent or cyclic hydrocarbon solvent also a 0.5 fold to a twofold quantity of saturated aqueous solution of sodium chloride with respect to the existing volume of the solution is added.

Claim 24. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the isolation of atorvastatin calcium comprises an addition of solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is poorly soluble.

Claim 25. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is poorly soluble, is ether.

Claim 26. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 25, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is poorly soluble, is diisopropylether.

Claim 27. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the isolation of atorvastatin calcium comprises:

- a) adding a solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is well soluble,
- b) concentrating the obtained mixture,
- c) adding a solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is poorly soluble so that it, consequently, wherein amorphous atorvastatin calcium separates from the reaction mixture.

Claim 28. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 27, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is well soluble is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, and propanol.

Claim 29. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 28, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is well soluble is methanol.

Claim 30. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 27, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is poorly soluble is ether.

Claim 31. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of amorphous atorvastatin calcium according to claim 30, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solvent in which atorvastatin calcium is poorly soluble is diisopropylether.

Claim 32. (currently amended): ~~Use of amorphous atorvastatin calcium, prepared by the process as described in any previous claims from 1 to 31 for the preparation of a medicament~~ A method for the treatment of diseases selected from the group consisting of dislipidemia, hyperlipidemia, hypercholesterolemia, atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis, cardiovascular diseases, coronary arterial diseases, coronary heart diseases, disorders of blood circulation, inflammation diseases, bone diseases, disorders of processing beta amyloid precursor protein, ~~such as Alzheimer's disease or Down's syndrome~~ said method comprising administering amorphous atorvastatin calcium which is prepared according to the process of claim 1.

Claim 33. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical ~~form~~ composition comprising amorphous atorvastatin calcium prepared by the process as described in ~~any previous claims from 1 to 32~~, and pharmaceutically acceptable ingredients.